

his wife Doris; daughters Donna, Susie, Nancy, and Linda and his seven grandchildren Kelly, Kevin, Matt, Christine, Jessica, Brett and Bridget, will miss him terribly and remember him fondly. They will definitely recall his "infectious laugh" and "colorful attire."

While his passing brings sadness to the many lives he touched, his legacy and contributions will be remembered for years to come. I ask my colleagues to join with me in honoring C.H. "Boots" Duesing, and offering condolences to his family.

TRIBUTE TO JIM GALE

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the retirement of Mr. Jim Gale, a guidance counselor at Algona High School in Algona, Iowa, and to express my appreciation for his years of dedication and commitment to the youth of Iowa.

After graduating from Akron High School and receiving his education degree and master's degree in counseling from South Dakota University, Jim Gale has spent the past 39 years contributing his time and talents to youth development. He began by teaching for 5 years and then counseling for 2 years at a small school in Minnesota before coming to Algona High School as a guidance counselor, where he remained for the past 32 years. Through teaching, counseling, and coaching sports, Jim has touched the lives of thousands of students. Inspired to become a counselor because of the great impact his own counselor had on him while growing up, Jim says the most memorable experience he will take with him is seeing students come in as freshmen and mature into seniors, later becoming mature adults giving back to their communities.

Although his leadership will be missed, Jim Gale has made a lasting impact on the many students and teachers he has worked with over his career, and he plans to continue serving his community through part-time guidance and counseling at schools in the area and other volunteer efforts. I consider it an honor to represent Jim Gale in the United States Congress, and I wish him and his wife Marilyn a long, happy and healthy retirement as they enjoy their grandchildren and continued community involvement.

HONORING LOUISIANA REGION 7 PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Cooper Knecht, a principal at Herndon Magnet School in Caddo Parish. Knecht was recently awarded the Principal of the Year Award from Louisiana State Department of Education and the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. This fall her dedication will rise to new heights as she serves as superintendent for Region 7 schools.

Knecht's designation as Principal of the Year was based on evident collaborative and instructional leadership. Knecht was also appointed according to her community contributions, affiliation with educational organizations, and ability to inspire students to achieve scholastic accomplishments.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the accomplishments of Cooper Knecht. Her dedication to the growth and development of America's future leaders is worthy of applaud. Her leadership is a beneficial element to education in the 5th Congressional District of Louisiana that deserves acknowledgement.

A.J. JUDICE

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, today I come to pay tribute to a long time cultural icon in Southeast Texas. A.J. Judice was a proud ambassador of his Cajun heritage and used his life to promote and spread their culture across the area. His family started Judice's French Market 80 years ago and introduced Cajun food to the region for the first time. Known for his black beret, white moustache, red scooter, and colorful personality, Judice was truly a Southeast Texas original.

Albin Joseph "A.J." Judice, Jr. was born in Port Arthur in 1927. He graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School in 1945, the same year that his beloved Yellow Jackets played for the State championship, he so frequently bragged. He spent 2 years as a Merchant Mariner, allowing him to see the world. His heart and his future, however, belonged in Texas. He married Lois the former senior prom queen in 1948. They had two children in one year, eventually having five in all.

Judice is most recognized as the mascot for the restaurants and grocery stores that have been in his family since the 1920's. His family opened Judice's French Market in 1927 in their single car garage while the family lived above. They moved in the 1930s and settled where they still operate today. A.J. and his mother, "Maw Maw" Judice, are credited as being the first store in Texas to sell live crawfish and hot boudain, two staples of any Cajun diet. He was always happy to announce that their seafood "slept in the Gulf last night." They also own Larry's French Market in Groves. Though he passed the stores on to his sons, the caricature of Judice in his apron and beret is still used to advertise the store. Thanks to him, "crawfish season" is just as popular as "football season" in Southeast Texas.

Judice was known as the "Crazy Frenchman" and he definitely lived up to the branding. He helped popularize the sport of Crawfish racing in Southeast Texas, a sport created to celebrate the Cajun lifestyle. In the early 1960's, Texas Governor Preston Smith appointed him as a Texas Crawfish Racing Commissioner. It was then that he coined his famous cheer, "Hot boudain, and cold cash cash! Come on crawfish, push push push!" A.J. and his crawfish eventually won the world championship in Breaux Bridge, Louisiana. He was so well known that a 1980's USA Today

article spotlighted Judice and his racing mudbugs. CBS news featured him on a cover story after he trained two crawfish to jump out of airplanes. From the smallest local festival to the largest Mardi Gras festivities around, Judice was always visible, playing his triangle "ding-a-ling" or dancing to zydeco music. He was full of life and lived every second like it was his last.

Madam Speaker, Mr. A.J. Judice, Jr. was a pioneer in promoting a respect of rural Louisiana history and culture. He enhanced his community of Southeast Texas for 80 years, and I am proud to celebrate his accomplishments and the legacy that he leaves behind.

A TRIBUTE TO MONSIGNOR JOHN MORETTA ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION INTO THE PRIESTHOOD AND HIS 25TH ANNIVERSARY AS PASTOR OF RESURRECTION CHURCH IN BOYLE HEIGHTS

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an extraordinary spiritual and civic leader in the Boyle Heights community in the heart of my congressional district.

This year, Monsignor John Moretta is celebrating two significant milestones. It is the 40th anniversary of his ordination into the priesthood and his 25th anniversary serving as the immensely respected and beloved pastor of Resurrection Church in Boyle Heights.

It is my pleasure to tell you more about this remarkable man.

A native Angelino, Monsignor Moretta entered St. John's Seminary, Camarillo, in 1960. After completing Philosophy and Theology studies, he was ordained on April 27, 1968. Since then, he has served in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles as a parish priest in five parishes, the most recent being Resurrection Church. In addition to being an elected member of the Council of Priests, the Monsignor received special recognition within the church on February 2, 1992 when he was invested as a Domestic Prelate to His Holiness with the title of Monsignor.

During Monsignor Moretta's ministry, he has worked primarily in the Spanish-speaking Latino immigrant community. While he provides motivational spiritual guidance to his congregation, Monsignor Moretta is also highly regarded for his extensive community work that extends well beyond the walls of Resurrection Church.

Under his leadership, Resurrection Church offers a broad array of initiatives to improve the lives of families in the community. Among the many examples of his outreach, Monsignor Moretta empowers his parishioners to learn English and become U.S. citizens.

Monsignor Moretta also encourages residents to speak out against crime and pollution in their neighborhoods. For over nine years, as part of the Resurrection Church Neighborhood Watch group, Monsignor Moretta has met with members of the community every week to discuss public safety.

In an effort to address the neighborhood's concerns about crime and gang activity, Monsignor Moretta took the lead in bringing the successful Project CLEAR anti-gang program to Boyle Heights. I remember well when Monsignor Moretta first approached me about obtaining the federal funding needed to start and maintain the program. Monsignor Moretta explained that he was very concerned about our community because he was increasingly attending funeral services for those killed in gang-related violence, including the funerals of innocent bystanders caught in the line of fire.

Today, through intelligence-gathering, visible community patrols, gang-related arrests, and the investigation of gang-related crimes, the officers in the CLEAR Unit are credited with reducing crime in the area. The officers also work closely with school officials to reduce gang activity and local gang-intervention organizations to divert "at-risk" youth from gang involvement.

Monsignor Moretta has also led efforts to protect our children and families from a number of projects that raised significant health and safety concerns in the community.

Under his guidance, the Mothers of East Los Angeles (MELA) was formed in the 1980s to bring the community together to protest the building of a state prison. As part of this effort, Monsignor Moretta led 200 Latina mothers on a lobbying mission to Sacramento where they successfully voiced their concerns about the proposed prison with the governor and state legislators.

Ever since then, on behalf of the community's ongoing quest for social and environmental justice, Monsignor Moretta, in coordination with MELA and other local leaders, has worked to ward off other harmful projects. They have been at the forefront of efforts to stop the expansion of a plant that recycles petroleum and battery acids. They joined forces to oppose the siting of a toxic incinerator. And, most recently, they have been organizing to protest the proposed construction of a power plant that will increase toxic emissions in the area.

In addition to environmental causes, Monsignor Moretta and the Mothers of East Los Angeles have joined forces to bring stability and pride to neighborhoods through homeownership. They worked together to make low-income housing units available to area families. They also established the Boyle Heights Resident Homeowners Association and the Mothers of East Los Angeles Home Ownership Center to provide information and resources to help families become first-time homeowners.

Madam Speaker, on the occasions of Monsignor Moretta's 40th Anniversary of ordination and his 25th Anniversary as pastor of Resurrection Church, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Monsignor Moretta—or Father John as the community lovingly refers to him—on both of these significant anniversaries and, above all, in thanking him for his tireless advocacy on behalf of the Boyle Heights community.

BP'S 2008 A+ FOR ENERGY
TEACHERS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor to commend twenty-five local educators from Northwest Indiana who have been recognized for their outstanding achievements in promoting energy education and conservation through innovative classroom activities. These individuals will be honored as part of BP's A+ for Energy program at a very special luncheon that will take place at the Radisson Star Plaza Hotel in Merrillville, Indiana, on Monday, July 21, 2008.

BP's A+ for Energy program, being offered in Indiana for the second year, recognizes community educators who have gone above and beyond to bring real-world, innovative ideas into our schools, allowing students to become involved in classroom, after-school, extra-curricular, or summer activities that will not only challenge and enrich their lives, but will also teach them the importance of energy conservation.

The twenty-five individuals selected as the winning A+ for Energy teachers, based on their grant submissions, were chosen by two independent panels of experts in the fields of education, science, and the environment. Each recipient will be awarded a cash grant of either \$5,000 or \$10,000 to take back to their schools, as well as a scholarship to attend a three-day energy training conference sponsored by BP, in partnership with the National Energy Education Development (NEED) Project and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). It is estimated that more than 8,400 students will benefit from these grants.

This year's A+ for Energy honorees are: Karen Augustyn of Tolleston Middle School in Gary (Project P.O.W.E.R.—Providing Our World with Energy Resources), Patricia Casella of Jefferson Elementary School in Hammond (Experience Energy! Talk It, Live It, Touch It, Share It), Stanley Casella of Montessori Academy in the Oaks in Hobart (The Elementary Energy News Network), Barbara Cerwinski of Saint John the Evangelist School in Saint John (SJE is Hot About Global Warming), Dr. Charles Costa of the Northwest Indiana Education Service Center in Highland (TREE: Transforming the Region through Energy Enrichment), Edna Crittenden-Gregory of Roosevelt High School in Gary (Energy-Wise Conservation Calendar), Michelle Frantal of Forest Ridge Academy in Schererville (Saving Two by Two), Dana Hoeckelberg of Forest Ridge Academy (The Energy K'Nexion Club), Susan Labovic of Forest Ridge Academy (Now Broadcasting . . . Electricity), Kathryn Midkiff of Gavit Middle/High School in Hammond (Green Circle Project), Mary Moriarty of Gavit Middle/High School (Renewable Energy), Sandra Platt of Lake Central High School in Saint John (Lake Central High School—Blue Goes Green), Thomas Puplava of the Diocese of Gary Catholic Schools in Merrillville (Energy from the Sun), Jill Sayers of Lake Prairie Elementary School in Lowell (Art and the Science of Energy: A Fusing of Concepts), Glenn Smith of Forest Ridge Academy (Super Solar Power at Our Indianapolis

500), Elva Sotello of Whiting Middle School in Whiting (Working for a Joule), Mary Beth Tabaczynski of Edison Elementary School in Hammond (Exploring the Power of the Wind), Georgia Veneziano of Our Lady of Grace School in Highland (Energy Dilemma: The Answer is Blowin' in the Wind), Jay Drew of Portage High School in Portage (The Biology of Alternative Fuels), Monica Hargarten of Liberty Elementary School in Chesterton (Exploring Energy), Lisa Hughes of Saint Patrick School in Chesterton (Solar Energy and the Greenhouse Effect), Angela Reyes of ALLWays Learning Child Development Center in Valparaiso (CampALLWays Energized), Christine Robbins of Hebron Elementary School in Hebron (Today's Students—Tomorrow's Consumers), Jean Sienkowski of Central Elementary School in Valparaiso (The Central Energy Academy), and Melody Winnell of Junior Junction Childcare in Portage (Rain Garden and Solar Greenhouse).

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my distinguished colleagues to join me in commending these outstanding, innovative educators on their recognition as BP's 2008 A+ for Energy teachers. Their hard work and creativity have played and will continue to play a major role in shaping the minds and futures of Northwest Indiana's young people, as well as in bringing to the forefront the importance of energy conservation.

HONORING MARIAN ORFEO

HON. JOHN F. TIERNEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. TIERNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Marian Orfeo, a constituent from Lynnfield, Massachusetts and Director of Planning & Coordination with the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA), on being named the new President of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA). Marian will assume the Presidency at NACWA's Annual Conference, which convenes in Anchorage, Alaska this week.

Ms. Orfeo has served the MWRA in varying capacities for nearly two decades. The MWRA provides wholesale water and sewer services to 2.5 million people in sixty-one communities across eastern and central Massachusetts, including several in the sixth congressional district. As the Director of Planning and Coordination, her responsibilities include long-range planning to construct and renew MWRA's water and wastewater facilities and infrastructure as well as short-term strategic business planning for all agency functions.

Marian also manages the Authority's performance reporting system and is a member of the Steering Committee for the MetroFuture initiative of the Boston Metropolitan Area Planning Council. Over her career, Ms. Orfeo has demonstrated leadership and committed countless hours and tireless energy to efforts dedicated to the improvement of Boston's water quality and public health. As a result, she has earned the trust and respect of her peers, who recognize her as an environmental champion.

Marian Orfeo's public service career pre-dates her twenty years of service with the MWRA. She previously worked for the City of